

1817.7201

or sale of Government personal property and the application of the exchange allowance or proceeds from the sale to the acquisition of similar property for replacement purposes. The transaction must be evidenced in writing.

(b) NASA installations and contractors are authorized to conduct exchange/sale transactions as long as the requirements and restrictions of NPG 4300.1 and the Federal Property Management Regulations, Subchapter H, part 101-46, are followed. In conducting such exchanges/sales, NASA contractors must obtain the contracting officer's prior written approval and must report the transactions to the cognizant NASA installation Property Disposal Officer (PDO).

[61 FR 55753, Oct. 29, 1996, as amended at 65 FR 58932, Oct. 3, 2000]

Subpart 1817.72—Interagency Transactions

1817.7201 Policy.

(a) Although the Space Act provides interagency transaction authority nearly equivalent to the Economy Act, NASA has elected to conform its implementation of the Space Act to the requirements of the Economy Act. Therefore, unless exempt from the Economy Act for reasons other than the general authority of the Space Act, interagency acquisitions shall be supported by a Determination and Findings equivalent to that required for Economy Act transactions (see FAR 17.503 and 1817.503). This requirement applies to all purchases of goods or services under contracts entered into or administered by the Military Departments or other agencies. The Space Act may be cited as authority for a transaction where appropriate, but that does not provide relief from this D&F requirement.

(b) The determination described in paragraph (a) of this section is not required for contracts awarded under the Space Act to Government agencies pursuant to a Broad Agency Announcement when a review of the acquisition records would make it obvious that the award is not being used as a method of circumventing regulatory or statutory

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requirements, particularly FAR part 6, Competition Requirements (e.g., when a significant number and value of awards made under the BAA are made to entities other than Government agencies).

[62 FR 58687, Oct. 30, 1997]

Subpart 1817.73—Phased Acquisition

SOURCE: 63 FR 56091, Oct. 21, 1998, unless otherwise noted.

1817.7300 Definitions.

(a) *Down-selection.* In a phased acquisition, the process of selecting contractors for later phases from among the preceding phase contractors.

(b) *Phased Acquisition.* An incremental acquisition implementation comprised of several distinct phases where the realization of program/project objectives requires a planned, sequential acquisition of each phase. The phases may be acquired separately, in combination, or through a down-selection strategy.

(c) *Progressive Competition.* A type of down-selection strategy for a phased acquisition. In this method, a single solicitation is issued for all phases of the program. The initial phase contracts are awarded, and the contractors for subsequent phases are expected to be chosen through a down-selection from among the preceding phase contractors. In each phase, progressively fewer contracts are awarded until a single contractor is chosen for the final phase. Normally, all down-selections are accomplished without issuance of a new, formal solicitation.

1817.7301 Down-selections in phased acquisitions.

1817.7301-1 Pre-solicitation planning.

(a) The rationale for the use of the down-selection technique shall be thoroughly justified in the acquisition planning requirement. Because the initial phase solicitation will also lead to subsequent phase award(s), the decision to use a down-selection strategy must be made prior to release of the initial solicitation. Accordingly, all phases

must be addressed in the initial acquisition strategy planning and documented in the acquisition plan or ASM minutes.

(b) If there is no direct link between successful performance in the preceding phase and successful performance in a subsequent phase, down-selection is inappropriate. In this case, the phases should be contracted for separately without a down-selection.

(c) With one exception, both the initial and subsequent phase(s) of an acquisition down-selection process are considered to be full and open competition if the procedures in 1817.7301-4 and 1817.7301-5 (if using the progressive competition technique) are followed. If only one contractor successfully completed a given phase and no other offers are solicited for the subsequent phase, award of the subsequent phase may be made only if justified by one of the exceptions in FAR 6.302 or one of the exclusions in FAR 6.2, and only after compliance with the synopsis requirements of FAR 5.202 and 5.205 and 1804.570-2.

1817.7301-2 Evaluation factors.

A separate set of evaluation factors must be developed for each phase in a down-selection competition. Since these competitive down-selection strategies anticipate that a preceding phase contractor will be the subsequent phase contractor, the evaluation factors for initial phase award must specifically include evaluation of the offerors' abilities to perform all phases.

1817.7301-3 Down-selection milestones.

(a) When sufficient programmatic and technical information is available to all potential offerors, proposal evaluation and source selection activities need not be delayed until completion of a given phase. These activities should commence as early as practicable. The initial phase contracts should be structured to allow for down-selection at a discrete performance milestone (e.g., a significant design review or at contract completion) of a design maturity sufficient to allow for an informed selection decision. This will avoid time gaps between phases and eliminate unnecessary duplication of effort.

(b) The appropriate contract structure must reflect program technical objectives as well as schedule considerations. For example, if a two-phased acquisition strategy calls for formal completion of initial phase effort at Preliminary Design Review (PDR), but it is not financially practical or technically necessary for subsequent phase award and performance to carry all initial phase contractors through PDR, the initial phase contracts should be structured with a basic period of performance through a significant, discrete milestone before PDR with a priced option for effort from that milestone to PDR. The down-selection would occur at the earlier milestone, the PDR option exercised only for the down-selection winner, and the subsequent phase performance begun at the completion of the PDR option.

1817.7301-4 Synopsis.

(a) Each phase of a phased acquisition not performed in-house must be synopsized in accordance with FAR 5.201 and must include all the information required by FAR 5.207. Time gaps between phases should be minimized by early synopsis of subsequent phase competition. The synopsis for the initial competitive phase should also state the following:

(1) The Government plans to conduct a phased acquisition involving a competitive down-selection process. (Include a description of the process and the phases involved.)

(2) Competitions for identified subsequent phases will build on the results of previous phases.

(3) The award criteria for subsequent phases will include demonstrated completion of specified previous phase requirements.

(4) The Government expects that only the initial phase contractors will be capable of successfully competing for the subsequent phase(s). Proposals for the subsequent phase(s) will be requested from these contractors.

(5) The Government intends to issue (or not issue) a new, formal solicitation(s) for subsequent phase(s). If new solicitations are not planned, the acquisition must be identified as a "progressive competition" (see